



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Salisbury Police Chief Collins announces his retirement

Salisbury, N.C. (Saturday, Nov. 14) – Salisbury Police Chief Rory Collins has announced his intention to retire from the City effective Thursday, Dec. 31. Collins has been police chief since 2010.

Chief Collins began his law enforcement career in 1990 as a courtroom bailiff with the Rowan County Sheriff's Office. In 1995, he accepted a position in the Salisbury Police Department (SPD).

He was initially assigned as a SPD patrol officer before being reassigned to the agency's criminal investigations division just two years later. Collins received a number of promotions with increasing responsibilities throughout his law enforcement career with the City. Those positions included vice/narcotics, investigator in the major crimes division, patrol sergeant, special operations lieutenant and deputy chief of police. On March 17, 2010, he was appointed to serve as Salisbury's 10th chief of police.

Collins is a graduate of South Rowan High School and Livingstone College, where he earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice. In addition to his formal education, he has also accomplished numerous professional leadership courses at UNC-Chapel Hill and the University of Virginia.

"Throughout my career, I have truly been blessed to work with some of the finest men and women that the policing profession has to offer," said Collins in an email to his staff. "I am extremely proud of our department...I firmly believe that, though we have a lot of young and developing officers among our ranks, our agency is stronger than it has ever been in many ways. We also have a very strong and well-developed leadership team, who are highly capable of carrying on with our goals/objectives and daily missions. Lastly, our agency has enjoyed a significant reduction in citizen complaints over the past four and a half years and our crime rate continues to trend downward each quarter. I have every reason to be very proud of your accomplishments and totally confident in your continued successes."

"The City of Salisbury appreciates Chief Collins dedication not only to the Salisbury Police Department, but to the Salisbury community as a whole," said Salisbury City Manager Lane Bailey. "No doubt he had a challenging job in leading the policing of the city, but he always did so with courage and passion. His contribution to the Salisbury Police Department is invaluable, and we wish him well as he enters retirement after a long and distinguished career."

The City of Salisbury, America's first 10-gigabit city, is located in the heart of the Piedmont region of North Carolina, midway between Charlotte and Greensboro. Salisbury is the county seat of Rowan County, and provides a full range of municipal services, including law enforcement, fire protection, zoning and code enforcement and water and sewer systems. For more information regarding the City of Salisbury and its services and departments, please visit us on the web at www.salisburync.gov. To receive updates regarding local initiatives, meetings, programs and events, please follow us on Twitter at @CitySalisburyNC and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CitySalisburyNC>.